



CMA PROGRESS AT A GLANCE

as of April 25, 2011:

- **Anniston Chemical Activity, Ala.:** Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ANCDF) demilitarization operations continue with commencement of the Static Detonation Chamber (SDC). Meanwhile, operations with the Linear Projectile Mortar Disassembly (LPMD) have concluded. More than 16 percent of the local stockpile of mustard-filled munitions were disassembled at the LPMD during a 54-week run. Operators used the LPMD to remove the explosives from 4.2-inch mortars and 105 mm and 155 mm projectiles. Reliability and maintainability data collected with the LPMD will assist operators in Pueblo, Colo. The SDC is being used to safely process mustard-filled munitions that are not easily processed by the robotic operations in the ANCDF. SDC operations began early last month and should be completed this summer. More than 637,900 nerve agent and mustard agent munitions and bulk containers have been demilitarized in Anniston.
- **Blue Grass Chemical Activity, Ky.:** Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BGCA) completed the containerization of mustard projectiles slated for assessment. The containerization included over-pack and movement of 155 mm mustard projectiles. Twelve crates, holding 96 containerized projectiles, were safely transported to the designated storage igloo for X-ray operations, which are scheduled to begin on May 9.
- **Deseret Chemical Depot, Utah:** Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF) has safely destroyed 6,300 mustard agent-filled ton containers, 54,453 mustard agent-filled 155 mm projectiles and 63,274 mustard agent-filled 4.2-inch mortars. Overall, TOCDF has processed more than 98 percent of the Deseret Chemical Depot's mustard agent stockpile and more than 99 percent of the original agent tonnage.
- **Pine Bluff Chemical Activity, Ark.:** Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (PBCDF) continues with safe and compliant closure operations. All agent piping and feed system has been removed from the Toxic Cubicle, and agent storage tanks are being removed. On April 7, Pine Bluff Chemical Activity Commander Lt. Col. Nathaniel Farmer was promoted to Colonel by the Director of the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency Conrad Whyne in a ceremony at Pine Bluff Arsenal.
- **Pueblo Chemical Depot, Colo.:** Pueblo Chemical Depot (PCD) stores mustard-filled munitions: 105 mm projectiles and cartridges, 155 mm projectiles and 4.2-inch mortar cartridges. The Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Plan annual exercise is scheduled for May 4. Also scheduled in May is propellant sampling operations on 4.2-inch mortars. These standard random samples will test the stability of the propellant in the munitions.
- **Umatilla Chemical Depot, Ore.:** Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF) began operation of the Rinsate Collection System (RCS) on April 16. This process allows for more efficient use of the facility incinerators during the destruction of Umatilla's mustard agent. Successful implementation of the RCS will expedite mustard agent disposal since it allows treatment of rinsate in the plant's liquid incinerators, eliminating the need to transfer these emulsified mustard agent solids from their original ton containers to one or more recipient ton containers for processing in the metal parts furnace as was originally done. The UMCDF has eliminated 1,556 ton containers of mustard agent and destroyed more than 74 percent of Umatilla's original chemical agent stockpile.

CAMDS Explosive Containment Cubicle Nearing Demolition

Workers at the Chemical Agent Munitions Disposal System (CAMDS) have successfully completed a third Unventilated Monitoring Test (UMT) in the Explosive Containment Cubicle (ECC) building. Following approval of the test results, it will be added to the list of buildings ready for demolition.

The UMT is conducted to certify the area as agent free and it is the last major step that needs to be completed before a building can be demolished. During the 36-hour UMT, the building is isolated from the main ventilation system and temperatures are required to be maintained at a minimum of 70 F for proper air monitoring.

The end test results confirmed no chemical agent was detected inside the ECC. Once the final test reports are approved, the building will be opened to natural ventilation as it is prepared for final demolition.

The next UMT will target the Metal Parts Furnace, followed by the Multipurpose Demilitarization Facility/Bulk Drain Item Facility.



In preparation for the Unventilated Monitoring Test inside the Explosive Containment Cubicle, CAMDS workers Troy Watson and Dustin Kinney insert a blind flange to seal the main air duct.

Umatilla Chemical Depot Holds Final CSEPP Exercise

Depot employees made history on April 12 when they participated in the annual Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) annual exercise. Because of progress on the disposal of HD mustard ton containers at Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF), this is likely to be the last annual exercise held at the depot.

This ends 20 years of planning and participating in the annual emergency preparedness exercises, held to prepare the depot and surrounding communities to respond appropriately in case of a chemical incident.

The event in April also marked the last time that an Army demilitarization site will hold an annual emergency preparedness exercise. Umatilla joins Pine Bluff, Tooele and Anniston sites in conducting its last annual exercise. Left to hold exercises are the neutralization sites at Pueblo and Blue Grass Army Depots, which won't complete their disposal missions until several years from now.

"We learned a lot from it and we did a good job," said June Kelly, depot surety officer.

"Once again Team Umatilla demonstrated their ability to safely and aggressively respond to a chemical event. This is a testament to their training and their dedication to ensuring the work force, the community and the environment are protected," said Lt. Col. Kris Perkins, depot commander. "I am very proud of what they accomplished today and we will continue to focus on safety until our mission at Umatilla Chemical Depot is complete."

Under the Army's exercise scenario, the event started shortly after 9 a.m. with a tractor trailer truck transporting three ton containers filled with HD mustard chemical agent to re-warehouse the munitions. A tie rod on the truck broke, causing the driver

to lose control. As the vehicle swerved, the driver accidentally stepped on the accelerator instead of the brake. The transport vehicle crashed into an igloo headwall. The vehicle cab was damaged including a ruptured tank and became engulfed in flames (the truck battery blew up and ignited a fuel fire). Two of the three ton containers broke loose from their cradles and were tossed from the trailer. One of the containers had a major crack and the other popped a plug. The third ton container remained intact on the transport vehicle.

The vehicle driver was temporarily trapped in the cab and while trapped, the driver was stunned and subjected to smoke inhalation. The co-driver forced the door open and the driver exited the vehicle.

The simulated event triggered an immediate response from depot workers to the accident scene, an assembly of workers at the depot Operations Center and notification of the incident to off-post jurisdictions, including surrounding counties. Simulated actions were shelter in place and evacuations of residents and businesses affected by the depot plume models.

A Mobile Joint Information Center was set up in Benton County to handle mock media calls and provide video interviews. Real World Media covered the event as the final CSEPP exercise in the community before the end of agent at the Umatilla site.

Federal evaluators from the Army, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and local and state CSEPP jurisdictions are reviewing lessons learned from the exercise and will compile a report within 45 days of the exercise.

A CSEPP exercise planning committee made up of local, state, county, Army and FEMA officials spent eight months planning the exercise.

Anniston's Static Detonation Chamber Begins Operations

Operations using the Static Detonation Chamber (SDC) at the Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ANCDF) are underway. The SDC, located in a vinyl-covered structure near the ANCDF, was purchased, assembled and tested in preparation for operations that began on March 30. Using a locked explosive-proof "kettle," munitions are heated to the point of detonation. The heat and the controlled explosion effectively and safely destroy the mustard-filled munitions. A small percentage of the overall Anniston stockpile, these munitions cannot be readily processed by the automated equipment in the ANCDF.

The SDC produces no liquid waste. Scrap metal removed from the vessel may be recycled and salts from the off-gas system are treated and disposed of in compliance with applicable state and federal regulations.

As of April 19, the SDC has processed 116 105 mm projectiles, four 155 mm projectiles, and twenty 4.2-inch mortars.

CMA'S FIRST DIVERSITY DAY IS JUNE 9, 2011, AT THE CDTF.

Join fellow coworkers at 11:00 a.m. EST to celebrate the "Heartbeat of the Workplace."



Local Madison County officials listen as Mr. Dave Velazquez, Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BGCA) Director of Chemical Operations, uses a model igloo to describe the stacking procedure of munitions. Tour members left to right are: Richard Thomas (Richmond City Commission), Craig Williams (County Liaison & Co-Chair CDCAB), Richard Bellando (Richmond City Commission), Roger Barger (Madison Co. Magistrate), Truman Fields (Berea City Council) and Dave Velazquez (BGCA Chemical Operations Director).

BGCA Hosts Tour to Unveil Mock-Igloo

Madison County elected officials participated in a unique Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BGCA) tour on March 24. The BGCA Commander, Lt. Col. Steve Basso, selected the Elected Officials Tour to unveil the recently developed Mock-Igloo. The igloo is a replica of those located in BGCA's Chemical Limited Area. It will be used to demonstrate to visitors the safe storage and monitoring of chemical munitions and

to give stakeholders a better understanding of the training personnel receive, safety procedures and equipment.

Lt. Col. Basso will use the igloo for future tours as an educational tool to engage community leaders in BGCA's efforts to ensure safe storage. The Elected Officials Tour included visits to the Blue Grass Army Depot and the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant.

AMC Designated as Army's Lead Materiel Integrator

The Secretary of the Army John McHugh designated the U.S. Army Materiel Command (AMC) as the Army's Lead Materiel Integrator (LMI) in a March 22 memorandum, which changes how the operational Army will receive its equipment in the future.

With the designation of an LMI, the Army will standardize the process of providing materiel to the warfighter that was once managed by multiple organizations, databases and people.

"The Army's new approach for managing materiel is being designed to effectively and efficiently distribute and redistribute materiel to support the generation of trained and ready forces," McHugh said in the memorandum. "It must represent a different way of doing business that will foster open communication, improve collaboration and eliminate redundancies in the process."

This designation allows AMC to develop the single authoritative materiel data repository for the Army through an initiative called Logistics Information Warehouse said Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody, Commanding General, U.S. Army Materiel Command, during a recent town hall meeting.

At one point in time, warfighters needed to coordinate with multiple Army organizations to determine how to fill equipment shortages. However, with the implementation of this designation, AMC is now the one point of contact for all materiel through the U.S. Army Sustainment Command (ASC), a major subordinate command of AMC.

ASC's role will be to operate as the Army's single materiel readiness synchronization point—receiving materiel requirements from the Army, and employing its Distribution Management Center, Army Field Support Brigades and Directorates of Logistics.

The benefits of the LMI designation include the ability to provide total asset visibility and transparency, predictive analysis, elimination of redundant capabilities across the Army and integration and synchronization of multiple efforts, enabling AMC to manage materiel at best value for the entire Army.

"This is probably one of the most transformational adaptations we have had at the institutional level that is really going to impact Army Forces Generation and our ability to sustain and equip forces," Dunwoody said.

CMA Q&A

What is the SDC?

The **Static Detonation Chamber (SDC)** is a device that uses a locked explosive-proof "kettle" where chemical munitions are heated to the point of detonation. The heat and the controlled explosion effectively and safely destroy the munitions. The SDC produces no liquid waste. Scrap metal removed from the vessel may be recycled, and salts from the off-gas system are treated and disposed of in compliance with applicable state and federal regulations.

What is the LIC?

A **liquid incinerator, otherwise known as LIC**, is used to destroy liquid chemical agent which is drained and removed from the various chemical munitions during the demilitarization process. The LIC is also used to destroy chemical agent contaminated liquids which are generated from cleanup and decontamination activities. Chemical agent is pumped from accumulation tanks to the LIC primary chamber where it is "sprayed" into the incinerator through injection nozzles and burned. The primary chamber operates at 2700° F. The secondary chamber operates at 2000° F and burns used decon solution. It is also the final treatment to ensure the total destruction of agent.

Gardening Safety Tips

Soon enough, everywhere you go there will be flowers blooming and fresh produce sprouting. It's that time of year when avid and amateur gardeners alike pull out all the stops (and weeds) in their gardens. But did you know that emergency rooms treat more than 400,000 outdoor garden-tool-related accidents each year?

From hanging flowers to growing tomatoes, it's best to play it safe this spring as you gear up for what you hope to be a great growing season. Here are some safety tips to use when getting down and dirty:

- **Protect yourself from the sun.** Wear at least SPF 15 sun block and a hat to prevent sunburn and heat illness.
- **ALWAYS wear gloves.** The soil may contain things such as insects or chemicals that you don't want to touch. The gloves will also protect you from punctures from gardening tools and thorns. Use tools with safety devices, and clean your equipment frequently. Remember, common sense is your best tool.
- **Know your limits.** It's important to listen to your body to avoid heat-related illness or physical injury. Get a tetanus shot. Garden tools are often rusty, so take this preventative measure.
- **Enjoy the many benefits to gardening:** it's great exercise, it's a peaceful activity that's fun with family and friends and it's a great way to grow your own fresh and healthy produce. Just remember to enjoy yourself, stay alert and be safe!

CMA - U.S. CHEMICAL AGENT STOCKPILE DESTROYED

